

Alcoholics Anonymous / Problem Drinkers Live Normal, Happy Lives

Alcoholism is recognized as a major health problem. In the United States, it is the third great killer, after heart disease and cancer — and it does not damage alcoholics alone. Others are hurt by its effects — in the home, on the job, on the highway. Alcoholism costs the community millions of dollars every year. So whether or not you ever become an alcoholic yourself, alcoholism still can have an impact on your life.

We have learned a great deal about how to identify and arrest alcoholism. But so far no one has discovered a way to

prevent it, because nobody knows exactly why some drinkers turn into alcoholics. Doctors and scientists in the field have not agreed on the cause (or causes) of alcoholism.

For that reason, A.A. concentrates on helping those who are already alcoholics, so that they can stop drinking and learn how to live a normal, happy life without alcohol.

What is alcoholism? As A.A. sees it, alcoholism is an illness. Alcoholics cannot control their drinking, because they are ill in their

bodies and in their minds (or emotions), A.A. believes. If they do not stop drinking, their alcoholism almost always gets worse and worse.

Both the American Medical Association and the British Medical Association, chief organizations of doctors in those countries, also have said that alcoholism is an illness.

All illnesses have symptoms. Not all alcoholics have the same symptoms, by many — at different stages in the illness — show these signs: They find that only alcohol can make them feel self-confident and at ease with other people;

often want "just one more" at the end of a party; look forward to drinking occasions and think about them a lot; get drunk when they had not planned to; try to control their drinking by changing types of liquor, going on the wagon, or taking pledges; sneak drinks; lie about their drinking; hide bottles; drink at work (or in school); drink alone; have blackouts (that is, cannot remember the next day what they said or did the night before); drink in the morning, to cure severe hangovers, guilty feelings and fears; fail to eat and become

malnourished; get cirrhosis of the liver; shake violently, hallucinate, or have convulsions when withdrawn from liquor.

If you have a drinking problem, or think you might, or you simply want to learn more about Alcoholics Anonymous and alcoholism, go to an A.A. meeting. You will be most welcome. In Madison County, there is a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous at the Presbyterian Church in Marshall every Friday night at 7:30. A.A. meetings last one hour.

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Stepp Family At Hopewell

The Stepp Family of Tuxedo, N.C., will present a drama, "I Dreamed I Searched Heaven For You", at the Hopewell Baptist Church this Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

The Rev. Ralph McDevitt, pastor, cordially invites the public to attend.

Plumbline

By J.D. SHACKELTON

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.—Isaiah 55:10-11.

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of scripture is of any private interpretation. For the scripture came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.—II Peter 1:20-21.

"Private interpretation" does not refer to an understanding of scripture that I alone hold. Many hold the same private interpretations, and where we go to church on Sunday may well indicate which private interpretation best pleases us. If the church we attend has had more influence on our thinking that the Almighty has had, then we are in need of the admonitions of the above scriptures.

What makes my understanding of scripture "private" is that I have not received it from God, and the proof that I haven't is not in my interpretation, but in me — I have not been changed. We must realize that God did not give us the Bible for scrutiny, as if we could decipher its content and simplify it. The Word is given for meditation. Meditation means the spiritual ears alert to the voice of God and the hear bowed in worshipful readiness to obey. The desire is not for the cold and lifeless atmosphere of correct theology, but for the invigorating presence of the breath of the Living God. The result is personal instruction. Never did God enlighten a person through a passage of scripture so that the person could go about converting others to that view of that scripture. If God gives me light in the scripture, it is because He wants to alter me.

The revelation of God is never granted us for the purpose of stuffing our heads with what we are pleased to call "sound doctrine." The illuminations of the Spirit of God are given to further us in holiness, i.e., to increasingly conform us to the Divine will and nature. A doctrine is never "sound" on my lips if it has not altered my life. The preacher must "walk it" before he talks it. If he doesn't, his teaching will have a hollow ring about it. People might say "Amen" and "That's right," but no one will be changed. It is the letter, a formula; and though it may be theologically correct through and through, the Holy Spirit will never bear witness to

private interpretation.

To hold to doctrines that have not altered our living is a sure sign that we are religious, but is no indication that we are redeemed. God's revealed standard is that the reception of His Word will change a person, not sometimes, but always. The change may not be sudden, but it is certain. Let us take the measure of ourselves, of our churches, and of our ministries, not in comparison to others, but in the honest light of God's Word and the Holy Spirit who gave it.

Biltmore To Observe Christmas

Christmas will be observed in the traditional manner again this year at the Biltmore House with seasonal music, flowers, greenery and decorated trees throughout the massive rooms and halls.

This Christmas marks the 83rd anniversary of the Biltmore House. George W. Vanderbilt celebrated the opening of the house on Christmas Eve in 1895.

According to Don Burleson, general manager, there will be at least 16 trees, 10 to 40 feet tall, throughout the house, decorated with traditional and European style ornaments. A 40-foot tree will be located in the huge banquet hall.

Burleson said the estate's greenhouses are furnishing more than 3,000 poinsettias for decorations. The estate's maintenance crews have been collecting greens to make the 20- to 60-inch wreaths which will adorn doors and mantles. A mile or more of pine bough roping will be placed on the balconies and mantles. Sprays of North Carolina holly and balsam will adorn the doors.

And mistletoe will be included for the customary reasons, Burleson said.

Music will be provided on four weekends before Christmas.

The concert schedule is:

Dec. 2-3, 2 p.m. + Western Carolina Madrigal Singers.

Dec. 9-10, 2 p.m. + Western Carolina University Concert Choir.

Dec. 16-17, 2 p.m. + Western Carolina University Faculty Brass Trio.

Dec. 23, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. + Handbell and Piano Holiday Music.

The house will be decorated from Dec. 2 through Dec. 31. All programs are included in the admission price.

The Biltmore House and its gardens are open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

FAMILY DOLLAR Christmas SALE

FOR MORE UNDER YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

Men's and Boys' Sweatshirts

\$2.88

Crew neck in heather shades with ribbed cuffs and bottom. Men's S,M,L,XL. Boys 10-16.



Men's and Boys' Joggers

\$6.00 pair

Sturdy vinyl in a variety of colors with special tunnel groove sole. Padded collars and insoles. Sizes 3-6, 7-12.

Youths' sizes \$5.00



Ladies' Leather Look Coats

\$9.99

Warm, lined coats with detachable hood and snap front or with flannel lining, toggle buttons and elbow patches. Dark natural colors. Sizes 8-18. You would expect to pay at least twice our price!



Tonka Jeep Or Rescue Vehicle

\$3.99 each

Rugged steel construction with authentic details.

24" Walking Doll

\$4.99

24" tall with movable arms & legs.

18" Drink & Wet Doll ... \$3.99



FANTASTIC SAVINGS IN EVERY DEPARTMENT!

4-Foot Christmas Tree

\$6.99

Beautiful, artificial Scotch Pine with stand. Easy to assemble.

Big 6-Foot Tree ... \$8.99

Light Set

\$1.44

Set of 20 tree lights. UL approved.



Ladies' Brushed Gowns

\$3.99

Choose prints or solids in assorted feminine styles. Sizes S,M,L.



C. B. Scooter

\$6.99

Durable 3-wheeled riding toy with "C.B." mike.

Playskool Pet Hospital

\$4.99

Hospital set with case. 6 play animals & accessories.



Garland

3 pks. \$1

Assorted 3' x12' flameproof garland.

Icicles

2 pks. \$1

1000 icicles per pack. 18" long.

Glass Ornaments

77¢ box

Twelve 1.75" ornaments per box. Assorted colors.



Ladies Boots

\$9.99

Leather-look uppers with side zipper, soft lining. 5-10.

Ladies' Plush Scuffs

\$1.99

Soft, warm, comfortable. Infants, Animal Slippers \$1.99



- TRUCKS**
- 76 TOYOTA PICKUP, Long wheel base, cover \$3695
 - 75 CHEV. PICKUP, 3/4 Ton, 5 spd \$3495
 - 73 BRONCO V8, 4 wheel drive, air, auto. \$3495
 - 76 CHEV. VAN, auto., PS, V8, 4 seats. \$4595
 - 73 DODGE CLUB CAB, V8, Auto., air, loaded \$2295
 - 72 JEEP COMMANDO Low Mileage... .. \$2995
- CARS**
- 77 CAMARO V8, auto, PS, Low mileage. \$5295
 - 75 GRANADA, 4 door, auto., PS. \$2995
 - 73 COMET, 2 Door, GT., Auto. . \$1695

Boys' Jeans

\$3.99

Girls' Pants

\$3.99

Stacks and jeans in styles for school or dress. 4-6x.



Tots' Winter Shirts

\$1.59

Infants & toddlers, long sleeve, warm, soft, and available in various colors.

Ladies' Checkwriter

\$3.99

Perfect purse organizers! Choose from assorted styles.



Boys' Winter Jackets

\$5.00

Warm quilted nylon in assorted colors. Sizes 4-14.

Girls' Winter Jackets

\$5.00



Thirsty Bath Towels

2 For \$3

Terry and velour. Solids, prints and jacquards.

Disposable Douche

3 For \$1



Earthborn Baby Shampoo

2 \$1

Trial Size Colgate

8 For \$1

Great savings! .75-oz. tube. Reg. 19¢ each.



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Cricket Table Lighter

\$1.00

Disposable lighter in table top stand. Reg. \$1.99.



Bag of 25 Bows

39¢

Favorite colors. Self-adhesive. Reg. 59¢.



FAMILY DOLLAR MADISON SHOPPING PLAZA MARSHALL, N. C.

OPEN NIGHTS TILL CHRISTMAS TILL 9 P.M.